

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the title with the following new title:

**DATA PROTECTION METHOD WHEREIN DATA PROTECTION CODE IS
STORED TOGETHER WITH PARITY**

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

A method for storing data on a disk drive and checking the validity of data read from such disk drive. The method includes: transmitting the data from a source thereof for storage in the disk drive through a first transmission path and transmitting a CRC together with parity associated with such data for storage in a storage medium through a second path separate from the disk drive. The data stored on the disk drive is retrieved. A CRC associated with the retrieved data is determined. The determined CRC and the CRC stored in the storage medium are compared. With such method, if data and its associated CRC are written into the incorrect location in the disk drive, during a read an error will be detected because the CRC of the read data will not match the CRC associated with the read data stored on the storage medium.